

**Subject:** Support for the Islander East project  
**Resent-From:** Islandereast.Comments@noaa.gov  
**Date:** Sat, 22 Feb 2003 14:16:30 -0500  
**From:** Jack Vecchitto <jack@imagedge.com>  
**To:** IslanderEast.comments@noaa.gov  
**CC:** Mike Salius <Mikewsal@aol.com>

February 22, 2003

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of an appeal submitted by Islander East Pipeline Company, LLC to overturn the October 15, 2002 appeal by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding proposed construction of the Islander East pipeline.

I support Islander East's proposed use of sophisticated horizontal drilling technology to place the pipeline well below the sea floor with minimum disturbance to shell fishing beds or other environmentally sensitive areas. I also agree that the use of the sub-sea plow construction techniques in deeper waters of Long Island Sound will also decrease disturbance to the seafloor.

As a Connecticut businessperson, I realize that this project is needed because the demand for natural gas is growing at a greater rate in the Connecticut, Long Island and New York City markets than anywhere else in the country. Demand will continue to grow as more homes convert to natural gas and as proposed natural gas fired plants are built to generate electricity for the region. I agree with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ruling that the Islander East project is environmentally acceptable and responsive to public convenience and necessity.

Sincerely,

Jack Vecchitto

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